The WORLD

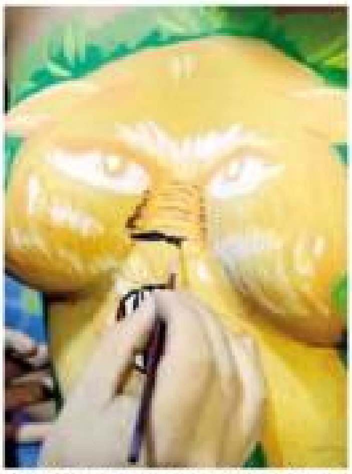
US troops to leave Iraq in 18 months

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA IS expected to order all US combat troops to leave Iraq by August 2010, administration officials said, closing the door on a war that has led to the death of more than 4,250 American soldiers.

Guards revolt over pay in Dhaka

Best job in Brazil? Painting nude models

RIO DE JANEIRO—BETTO ALMEIDA IS THE MR. LUCKY OF Rio's Carnival.



ALMEIDA works on the body of a model before Monday's carnival parade in Rio de Janeiro. AP

Nokor chief visits site of missile launch

Iran tests first nuclear power plant

WORLDBRIEFS

Tensions subside at Thai capital

Woman wins house after husband laid off

1-day strike paralyzes services in Greece

Stores looted, cars burned in Martinique

San Francisco Chronicle faces closure

Turkish plane crashes at Amsterdam, 9 killed



RESCUERS rush to save passengers of Turkish Airlines Flight TK1951.



TRAFFIC WOES
The celebration of the Edsa People Power I yesterday did not provide pleasant memories for traffic woes instead in motorists traversing Metro Manila's main thoroughfare. The intensified traffic for several hours like this one at the Kamuning flyover in Quezon City.

2 Caloocan City cops shot dead

By DJ Yap

AN OFFICER OF THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE of the Armed Forces of the Philippines gunned down two Caloocan City policemen who were trying to arrest him Tuesday night, the police said.

Killed were PO3 Joel Bolanoson and PO1 Mezar Mendoza, both detailed at the Caloocan Police Department, in the incident that occurred at past 7 p.m.

The police have arrested the gunman, Master Sergeant Aristotle Calagui, who allegedly shot the victims while they were trying to help his girlfriend whom they suspected to be the victim of abuse, a report by the case investigator PO3 Edgardo Rapero, indicated.

Rapero said the twin shootings occurred near the Bonifacio Monument after the two officers took Calagui into custody after his live-in partner, a certain Christine Napolis, accused him of beating her.

Investigators said the body was suddenly shot the police officers as they were boarding a multi-cab that was to take them to the police station.

The suspect tried to escape but were arrested in follow-up operations at a nearby motel, the police said.

The victims were rushed to the Manila Central University Hospital, where they both died.

Water improvement work in Pasay starts

By Amy R. Remo

OVER 5,000 HOUSEHOLDS IN PASAY CITY can soon look forward to better water service after Maynilad Water Services Inc. and the Pasay local government have begun the P338-million water service improvement project.

In a statement, Maynilad said the project, which started this month, involves the replacement of 52.77 kilometers of old and leaky pipes in Sta. Clara and San Isidro, Pasay.

The pipe-laying activity would involve seven contractors working simultaneously on specifically assigned areas to complete the project as early as June 2009.

The decommissioning of the deteriorated pipes is also expected to address the water quality problems in the area.

Maynilad said the laying of new 75-mm to 300-mm pipes would replace the service entries of 5,379 existing customers. Further, Maynilad said it will be able to serve some 300 new customers and revive 800 disconnected service connections.

Ateneo student killed on campus

From page A1

Sources, apparently assisting that the van was going to hit them, pushed Abantao's older brother and sister safely out of the way.

"She could not reach the other boy because he was far away from her and then they got hit by the van," a witness said.

The van struck Eunice in the legs, hit Abantao and then ran over him. Despite this, witnesses said the driver of the van did not slow down. It only stopped when it hit a Honda CRV and a Kia van, they added.

Bystanders who rushed to the boy's aid had to lift the van to get his body from under the vehicle. Still, it took some time before he was taken to the hospital.

"The parents who witnessed the accident were probably in shock because it took a while before another mother volunteered to take the boy in her car and bring him to the hospital," a witness told the Inquirer.

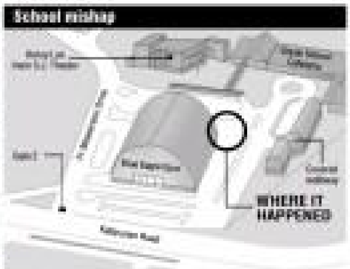
Wrong pedal

Sources said there was a possibility that Tecson might have stepped on the wrong pedal which led to the accident.

"Maybe as she was moving forward, she was shocked to see the children in front of her vehicle. Then instead of stepping on the brakes, she stepped on the accelerator," he speculated.

The boy's father, Jose Fernando Abantao, told the Inquirer that what happened was "unthinkable."

"My Andoi was the youngest of three sons, the most outdoor-loving and gentle [one]. He would rather swim than do any swimming pool. He [subscribed] to National Geographic magazine," he said.



Jose is the chief executive officer of Figaro Coffee Corp. and vice president for business development of the Philippine Stock Exchange.

He also wondered how it was possible for his son to be run over by a speeding car in the school's parking lot.

A statement issued by the Ateneo Grade School through its headmaster, Fr. Norberto Bautista, and the Ateneo de Manila University through its president, Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, expressed their deep sorrow and condolences to the victim's family.

Valiant Scout

It described the younger Abantao as a valiant and responsible boy Scout and a friend to many students.

"Ateneo assures the community that a proper and thorough investigation of the incident has been launched, and that counseling assistance is being provided to the affected families and students," the statement read.

"We request the media to respect the privacy of the parties involved in this tragic accident, and of those members of the school community who were profoundly affected by Andoi's sudden demise, during this time of prayer and mourning," it added.

The victim's wake is being held at the school's Chapel of the Holy Guardian Angels.

As a final tribute to the young boy, the school's Boy Scouts will forego their scheduled pass in review tomorrow and hold a Mass for their fellow scout instead, the statement said. *With Tina Bondoc*

300 kilos of 'hot' pork seized from porter in Pasay

By Allison W. Lopez



Las Piñas cops find bodies of 3 salvaging victims in separate locations in the city

By Allison W. Lopez

MetroBriefs

Mobile health clinic for Manila folk, students

Anti-red tape task force formed in Navotas

V. Mapa HS '85 reunion on April 4

Imported branded slippers seized

How corrupt is the Court of Appeals?

On Target

Ramon Tulfo

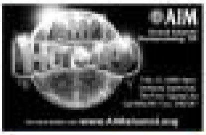
Bemedalled cop reported held hostage

By Allison W. Lopez

Ecogroups bewail operations

Did you know

Aplus METRO





Ateneo student killed on campus

Victim, nanny struck by speeding van; driver yields to police



A 10-YEAR-OLD ATENEO GRADE SCHOOL STUdent was killed while his nanny was injured when they were hit by a van inside the school campus on Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, on Tuesday afternoon.

Ecogroups bewail garbage operations in San Mateo








In the heart of the Philippine financial district...
One Central brings you heaven on the seventh floor.
One
CENTRAL
HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE IN 20 FUN WAYS
For inquiries about our special payment plans, call us now at
856-4219, 856-4221 or Cell# 0915-3137409.
MEGAWORLD

So draws with Ukrainian GM

SPORTS

Pacquiao gives up lightweight title

Mamiit agrees to beef up RP Davis Cup roster vs Hong Kong

PBA targets Aussie club for national five tuneup

Rookie TCC posts 5-point PAL lead over Canlubang



Burger King says it will run and gun

Pointers on how Hatton can beat Pacquiao

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

PSC puts focus on homegrown athletes

Zarate leads ICTSI golf by 1

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

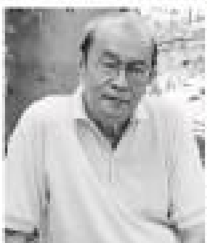
He won't stop saving the lakes

By Maricar Cinco
San Pablo City

WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE PHILIPPINES in 1995 after staying in the United States for 15 years, Mandy Marino was surprised with what his hometown by the Sampaloc Lake in Laguna had become.

[illegible]





Rewarding

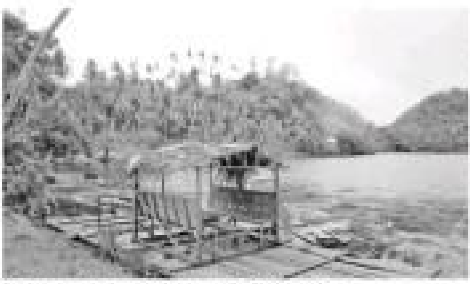
[illegible]

Pandin Lake tour

[illegible]

Giving back

[illegible]



Getting There

[illegible]

NPA says 'proof of life' should have stopped military offensives

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
Lucena City

A SPOKESPERSON of the New People's Army rebels holding three Rizal policemen has scoffed at the police and the military for the continuous military operation in the province despite providing proofs that the captives were "safe and well."

[illegible]



[illegible]

Across the NATION

N. Luzon state schools freeze tuition

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—STATE UNIVERSITIES and colleges in Northern Luzon are now looking for ways to cushion the impact on their operations of the budget cuts that have hampered them the last few years.

[illegible]

13 NPA rebs, 5 soldiers dead in clashes in Bukidnon

[illegible]

Crossfire victims

[illegible]



[illegible]

Batanes gears up to preserve Ivatan homes

[illegible]

Livelihood for residents

[illegible]

Augment income

[illegible]

Erap continues bid for 2010 with other bets in Pangasinan

[illegible]

Entourage

[illegible]

₱20B in loans available for nature tourism

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

[illegible]

Aid and credit facilities

[illegible]

More chartered flights

[illegible]

What can you say about this?

LETTERS

E. Visayas provinces splurging on wrong priorities

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Address work hazards but Hanjin must stay

Edsa worth celebrating

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Fil-Am doctor-lawyer wins landmark case

HUMAN FACE



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

The end of social mobility

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

'Bida'

YOUNG BLOOD

Christiane May R. Sabrosa

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

INQUIRER

OPINION

A pack of wolves

EDITORIAL

WE SHARE THE SENSE OF FRUSTRATION THAT Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano gave vent to the other day, when he criticized the Senate blue ribbon committee's final report that he said "prematurely absolved" President Macapagal-Arroyo of direct involvement in the P728-million fertilizer fund scam. But we also share the sense of resolve and even the sense of difficult achievement that animated the report, signed by at least 11 senators and released by committee chair Sen. Richard Gordon last Monday.

"The public, for a long time, has demanded closure to this issue. We have done our part. Now, let the prosecution arm of government do theirs," Gordon said.

[illegible]



Stark irony

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

Top dog

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Chiz, Mar withdraw support for bill

Vets sell cows, take '5-6' loans

Sleeping at the lobby

Heavy with medals

"Much delayed"

Overnight stay

FVR hits GMA no-show: Everyone should give respect

Short notice

Cory among macho politicians and how she survived them

DLSU scholarship

Ninoy's thing

Unido invite

'That woman'

Million-strong

GMA urges business to match gov't action; response slow

No takers

Not bound to fail

Retirements

Cash transfer to poor

Move quickly

Bigger budget deficit

New deficit ceiling

Fertilizer scam report sparks Senate war: Gordon vs Cayetano

Fair and just

No report on NBN-ZTE scandal

'That's democracy'

'I don't care'

Charter change

'Stressing the ridiculous'

Summer's here, and it will be longer and hotter

By Alcuin Papa

IT'S OFFICIAL. SUMMER IS HERE.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) also said yesterday that this year's summer might be hotter than past summers.

In a text message to the Inquirer, Pagasa weather bureau chief Nathaniel Cruz said the northeast monsoon has already weakened, "which means summer has started."

The northeast monsoon, or "Amihan," is the mass of cold air that blows into the country starting October, ending sometime in March.

Once the northeast monsoon stops blowing, warm air from the Philippine Sea and Pacific Ocean starts to come in, signaling the start of the dry season or summer.

In a phone interview, Cruz said the termination of the northeast monsoon came "slightly earlier" than usual this year.

This means "we will have a longer dry season and it will be hotter than usual," Cruz said.

Usually, summer temperature in Metro Manila reaches a maximum of around 37 degrees Celsius.

"Could it reach 37 degrees this time? Most likely it will," Cruz said. The hottest temperature recorded in Metro Manila was 38.5 degrees Celsius on May 14, 1987. The record for highest temperature in the country is at 42.2 degrees Celsius recorded on May 11, 1969 in Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

What could be cause for concern, Cruz said, is if temperatures reach from 35 degrees to 36 degrees Celsius for periods of three days to one week. "If we have sustained periods of these in our threshold of 37 or 38 degrees for more than three days straight, that would be devastating. This would mean the possibility of a heat wave."

Cruz said people who are susceptible to illnesses associated with high temperatures should be warned.

Cruz also said that even if the temperature stay at a manageable level of 35 degrees Celsius, high humidity of 50 to 60 percent can raise the actual temperature felt by the human body by at least another two or three degrees.

Correction

IN THE FEB. 22 issue, a photo caption accompanying a story on Page A1 misspelled the surname of the Ombudsman.









Obama: Day of reckoning here; better days ahead

Outdated regulations

Sins of the past

Precarious climate

Energy program

Republicans' response



THOU ART DUST

'Euro general' may need a loan

In tranches

Disbursing officer

2-week extension

Ombudsman files raps vs ex-solon

By Philip C. Tubeza

[illegible]

Oreta joins Cabinet as child welfare chief

[illegible]

Amparo Togonon; 88

[illegible]

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

SUERTRES

FOUR DIGIT

MEGALOTTO 6/45

2 3 6 17 27 38

P22,362,973.20

Bataan leaders tussle over nuke

By Leila B. Salaverria

BATAAN OFFICIALS YESTERday argued about how the people of the province are reacting to a proposal in Congress to revive the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP).

"Why not"

Mistake



NO TO VFA Militant protesters and anti-riot policemen face off in front of the US Embassy in Manila during yesterday's anti-VFA rally.

DANIEL SMITH RAPE CASE

SolGen defends embassy detention

By Norman Bordadora

DFA says VFA is indispensable

Recall no longer possible—Comelec

By Jerome Aning

Seaoil cuts diesel price by P3

By Amy R. Remo

GMA to discuss baselines bill with Chinese PM

By Christian V. Esguerra



ENTERTAINMENT / D1

Boy Abunda's media allies crucify Belo

NEWS / A3

Tessie Oreta named child welfare chair



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

FVR hits GMA no-show



Cory among macho pols and how she survived them

Chiz, Mar pull out support for right of reply bill



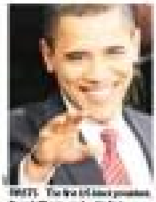
President counters job fair is using Edsa spirit

GMA urges business to match gov't action

Vets sell cows, take '5-6' loans

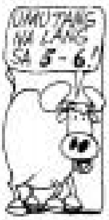


Fertilizer scam report sparks Senate word war



'STATE OF THE UNION'

Obama: Day of reckoning here



'Euro general' may need P6.9-M loan if deadline not extended for 2 weeks

Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan

LIFESTYLE Food

Bobby Chinn shares the high he gets from exploring cultures. Here's his special Vietnamese beef noodle recipe

Discovery Channel's chef daunted by 'champorado'



MAVERICK chef Bobby Chinn cooks a Vietnamese dish called Bun Bo, sauteed beef with rice noodles

Text and photos by [illegible]

ON AND OFF-CAMera, celebrity chef Bobby Chinn is pretty much the same—rugged, funny and impatient. He knows he talks too much, whether you are listening or not.

"I don't know, I'm just happy talking," he said.

[illegible]



TAMARIND-GLAZED Crab Cake with Chive Flowers and Asparagus

[illegible]

The Kapampangan is born to cook and eat (even frogs, locusts, crickets)

[illegible]

> He will relish the rich food even if it takes a toll on his health

KITCHEN RESCUE



Reggie Aspiras

[illegible]



LILLIAN Living Borromeo and Lord Francis Musni

BUSINESS

Gov't sees 8% drop in exports this year



OFW inflows seen to remain flat at $16B

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE GLOBAL CRISIS could result in more layoffs and weaker consumer demand than it initially anticipated, the government has become less optimistic about its projections on remittances and the country's potential export income for the year.

Survey says many firms to add more workers, hike wages

IN THIS ISSUE

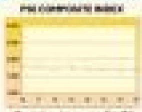
Budget gap contained at P68B in '08

BSP to file more cases vs Legacy this week

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Stocks up on Wall St. rebound

DA targets 4.4% palay output growth

RP imports rose by 2% in 2008

Survey says many firms to add more workers, hike wages





Gov't sees 10% ...

Budget gap ...

BSP to file ...



BUSINESS

Gov't hopes to raise ₱11B from PNOC-EC stake sale

Fund to boost state coffers

By Amy R. Remo

THE GOVERNMENT IS TARGETing to raise as much as P11 billion from the planned sale of its 40-percent stake in PNOC Exploration Corp. within the year.

On the sidelines of the Philippine economic briefing yesterday, Finance Secretary Margarito Teves said the government wanted to sell the PNOC-EC stake by the end of the first semester but if that would not be possible, in the third quarter.

Teves said the government was trying to fast-track the sale as it needed the funds to be generated.

The sale of the PNOC-EC stake is expected to help boost state revenue and help finance higher spending requirements for this year. Proceeds from the sale, Teves said, would not become part of any special fund but would be plowed back to the national coffers.

The target amount to be generated, however, was lower than the government's earlier goal.

Last year, Teves was quoted as saying that the government hoped to generate about P14 billion from the PNOC-EC stake.

The government has been trying to privatize its 40-percent stake in PNOC-EC since last year but was forced to defer its plan due to poor market conditions.

The bidding for the PNOC-EC stake was originally scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2008. This, however, had to be moved to this year.

The approved modes of privatization for PNOC-EC included an initial public offering, a block sale and an asset sale.

The government earlier said these options were all being considered and that the mode to be chosen would depend on how much cash the government was hoping to get from the sale.

San Miguel Energy Corp. and several other groups were earlier reported to have expressed strong interest in participating in the PNOC-EC bidding.

Established in 1976, PNOC-EC is the oil and gas exploration arm of PNOC and is tasked to search for indigenous sources of energy.

PNOC-EC has a minority stake in the Malampaya gas field off Palawan. It operates a 3-megawatt plant in San Antonio, Isabela, that now supplies electricity to some 18,000 households.

Phinma invests ₱1.5B in Iloilo university

THE PHINMA GROUP THROUGH Bacnotan Consolidated Industries Inc. is investing at least P1.5 billion in its fourth school, the University of Iloilo, in line with its expansion in the education sector.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, BCI corporate secretary Juan Diaz said the company board had approved the purchase of 34,997 shares of the capital stock of the said university from Iloilo Agro-Industrial Corp. for P315 million. It will also shoulder the tax payments on the sale of these secondary shares.

Also, BCII will subscribe to 1.19 million in new shares at P300 per share. University of Iloilo was established in 1947, initially as the Iloilo City Colleges, by Fernando Lopez, then mayor of Iloilo City.

Early this year, BCII completed its purchase of a 60.8-percent stake in the University of Pangasinan in Dagupan City.

It also has investments in Araullo University in Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija, and Cagayan de Oro College Inc. in Cagayan de Oro City. *Doris C. Dumlao*

MJC property now a tourism ecozone

By Doris C. Dumlao

MALACAÑANG HAS DESIGNATED SEVERAL parcels of land at the former site of the San Lazaro racetrack in Sta. Cruz, Manila as a tourism economic zone with information technology companies.

The said property, with a total area of 74,244 square meters, is owned by Manila Jockey Club Inc.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, MJC said it had signed with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority the registration agreement that allowed the company to develop and operate the new special economic zone, called the "San Lazaro Tourism and Business Park."

Ayala Land Inc., in joint venture with MJC, is developing portions of the economic zone as a residential and commercial complex, that will also house business process outsourcing (BPO) buildings. A 14-story BPO building was completed recently.

It said its subsidiary, MJCI Investments Inc., would construct a hotel within the special economic zone.



MJC'S BUSINESS and leisure park in Carmona, Cavite also a special economic and tourism zone.

MJC now operates two special economic and tourism zones, the other being the San Lazaro Business and Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite which has a total area of 542,294 sq m.

The company has a franchise to operate and maintain a racetrack and conduct horse races. It holds races in the Cavite complex. It also operates off-track betting stations (OTBs) and is expanding its OTB network in Metro Manila and in the provinces.

M. East firms eye agri projects in RP

By Abigail L. Ho

ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TRADING partners has expressed interest in venturing into agribusiness, either as a sole venture or in partnership with investors from the Middle East who have expressed interest in doing business in the country.

Trade Secretary Peter Favila said the tycoon, whom he declined to name, reacted positively to the government's suggestion for him to venture into agribusiness.

"He said he was willing to do it. We told him there were the options available to him, a joint venture or a project of his own. I just don't want to name him now because it may appear that we're pressuring him into something," he told reporters on the sidelines of yesterday's Philippine Economic Briefing.

He said investors from Riyadh in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain were interested to infuse capital into agribusiness ventures here, in a bid to boost food security in their countries.

The idea, he said, was for these Middle East investors to obtain long-term leases on land here which would be used to produce food crops.

The investors, he said, would then buy the agricultural produce from these lands for exportation to their countries.

"We're telling on all tappan, encouraging them to go into agriculture investments. If there's interest from such countries in the Middle East, then our tappan should also try it out. They can form joint ventures or just go on their own," he said.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap earlier said the government would be promoting farming and fisheries investments among a group of investors from the Middle East who were scheduled to visit the country in April.

He said there was high demand for rice, corn, cassava, sugar, animal fodder and fish products in these countries.

Saudi Arabia has a population of about 26 million, a million of which are overseas Filipino workers who can be a good market for local mangoes and bananas.

The Department of Agriculture and the Philippine Agriculture Development and Commercial Corp. have been tasked to formulate the proposal for the Middle Eastern investors.

TBGI teaming up with Mobiclear of US

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

TRANSPACIFIC BROADBAND Group International Inc. yesterday said it had signed an agreement to enter into a partnership with Pennsylvania-based personal identification-linked product developer Mobiclear Inc.

Listed firm TBGI is licensed to provide telecommunication services and maintain data facilities. It has operations at the Clark Special Economic Zone in Angeles, Pampanga and in Mandaluyong City.

Mobiclear develops and owns personal identification verification products collectively known as "Pivot," which is used to secure various types of transactions using debit and credit cards, and internet logins.

In a disclosure, TBGI said the agreement with Mobiclear was signed on Feb. 18.

Under the MOA, Mobiclear will use TBGI's existing data facilities.

Also, Mobiclear and TBGI will study "certain potential businesses within the telecommunications and internet segments that they could jointly develop."

TBGI will provide Mobiclear with office space and parking facilities in its premises at Summit One Tower in Mandaluyong. TBGI will also provide Mobiclear with "colocation services," hosting and Internet bandwidth for its Pivot system both in Manila and in Pampanga.

For these services, TBGI would be paid $18,000 for a 12-month period, beginning March 1, 2009.

TBGI has a 25-year lease agreement to build, maintain and manage a satellite earth station with the Clark Special Economic Zone. It also holds a 25-year Congressional Telecom Franchise for commercial telecommunications operations, and a provisional authority to transmit radio signals to satellites.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

As of February 25, 2009

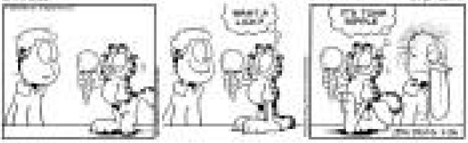
[illegible]

CURRENCIES

February 25, 2009

Country	Unit	Peso Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN

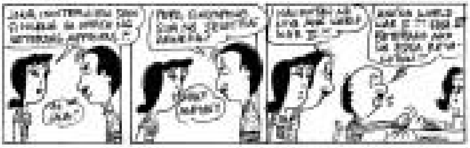


PUGAD BABOY

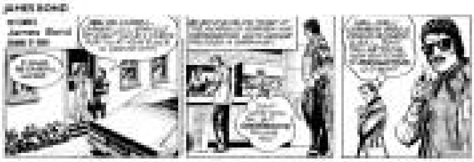


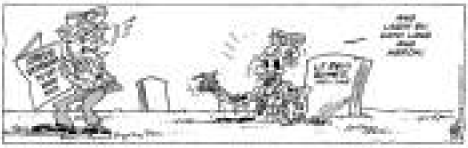
DICK TRACY



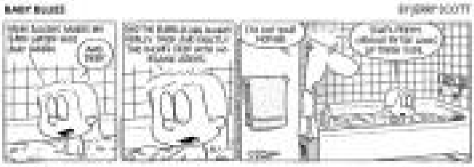


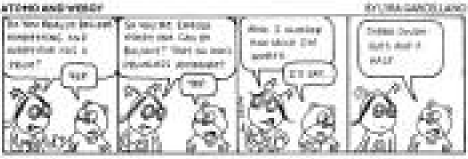
JAMES BOND





BABY BLUES





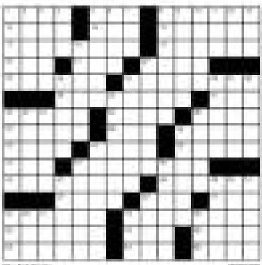


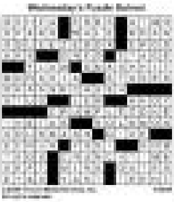
KIKO MACHINE





DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

1								
9		6	1					
		2	7		3		4	
	1					8		5
			8		4			
2		3					1	
	6		5		9	7		
					8	2		6
								3

Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle



Discovery Channel's chef daunted by 'champorado'



GRAPES rolled in goat's cheese with pistachio nuts

Second season



VIETNAMESE Bun Bo

Discovery discovers Chinn



DUCK spring rolls

The Kapampangan is born to cook and eat...

The Glass House: A glimpse of the Rockwell lifestyle







At the heart of Rockwell Center sits the newly unveiled Glass House model unit. Clean, modern, and sophisticated, the space is a tribute to the elegant aesthetic and commitment to quality that has become Rockwell's signature.

Designed by Butch Valdez, the Glass House two-bedroom diorama has earthy accents, full tones and raw ethnic highlights against muted backdrops.

While a celebration of sophisticated beauty, the 2-loft model unit's interior also offers function. Its seamless floor plan transitions smoothly from one area to another, making the design intelligent, practical, and perfectly suited for today's urban lifestyle.

Having recently opened its doors, the Glass House offers guests a glimpse of the Rockwell lifestyle that will soon be making its way to a whole new locale. Set to rise along the C-5 corridor of properties near Ortigas, The Grove by Rockwell is Rockwell Land's first venture outside of Rockwell Center.

More than just offering a diverse spectrum of unit types—ranging from flats to four-bedroom Garden Units, The Grove by Rockwell provides the same leisurely ease, exclusivity, and indulgence that people have come to expect from Rockwell. Amenities include a full-service spa, miles of bike lanes and jogging trails, barbecue zones and a wellness center - all tucked in verdant pocket gardens with water features. This is rebirth for urban Ortigas in living, breathing green. Another Rockwell culture of changing landscapes and shifting paradigms for better lifestyles.

Experience Rockwell living and visit The Glass House by the Plaza Garden, Power Plant Mall today. For inquiries, call 793-0088 or log on to www.a-rockwell.com.

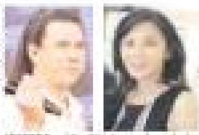
ENTERTAINMENT

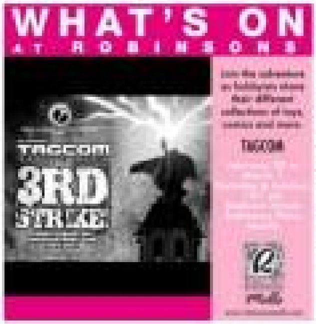
Bass player Dondi Ledesma; 50



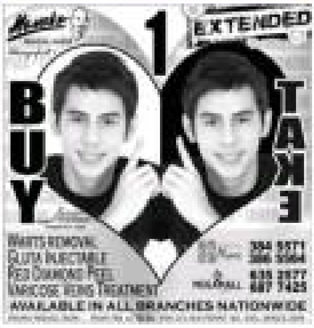
Abunda's media pals slam Belo

By Bayani San Diego Jr.





What cannot be undone

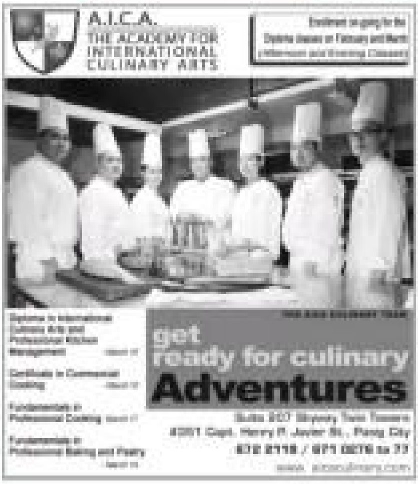


Irritating performances

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre







SM CINEMA movietime





Vicky Cristina Barcelona

ART IS 1% INSPIRATION, AND 99% SEDUCTION.

NOW SHOWING

METRO MANILA

RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

IMAX	THE PODIUM	
FLY ME TO THE MOON	YOU CHANGED MY LIFE	CINEMA 1
U2	THE INTERNATIONAL	VALKYRIE
DINOSAURS	LATE SCREENINGS	
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL		
SEA MONSTER		

LUZON

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

At the Cinemas

GLORIETTA 4

GREENBELT 1

GREENBELT 3

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET!MARKET!

TRINOMA

EXCLUSIVE

OPENS TODAY AT GLORIETTA 4 & GREENBELT 3 CINEMAS

KATE WINSLET

RALPH FIENNES



The Reader

5 BEST PICTURE

At the Malls

GLORIETTA

GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET! MARKET!

BONIFACIO HIGH STREET

TRINOMA

ONSTAGE

AYALA MUSEUM



glorietta GREENBELT Tri Noma

Irritating performances

From page D1

hyperdramatic and precarious "telenolas" of the series' young protagonists are also improbable and distracting.

Talk about irritating, the lead performances in "Dingdong" are even more off-putting. Initially, the repeat pairing on TV of the hit love team of Dingdong Dantes and Marian Rivera appears to be a good idea. However, the characters they're made to portray in their new series are too strange and unrealistic to come off as appealing and empathetic.

Dingdong's role as an obsessed to the border of the business world is unlikely enough, but what really downs the new show's believability for a loop is Marian's weird character.

At first, she's not so off-putting, because she merely comes off as "mysterious" (she sneaks into Dingdong's bedroom and both confronts and entrances him with her abrupt appearances and exits). Soon enough, however, her rather bipolar behavior becomes a big turn-off as she brazenly becomes Dingdong's subservient character.

Worse, Marian handles the shifts from mystery to weird dominatrix in an awkward and unintegrated way, betraying her lack of real acting savvy.

Worst of all, her strange and large characterization also makes Dingdong look bad by association. It's unbelievable that such a successful young businessman would allow himself to be so badly treated by such a brusque stranger. Yes, he's supposed to be captivated by her beauty, but his besotted behavior is still improbable.

In succeeding episodes, Marian's character loses some of her bipolar shrillness and her backstory reveals her more affecting aspects—but the harm has been done. Even for Dingdong, whose besotted behavior lingers in the mind and makes it difficult for us to take his character seriously from here on in.

From rage to 'sage' radio

Some months ago, we inveighed against some radio programs that went the cynical and exploitative "rage radio" route, preying on unsuspecting individuals or making mockery out of people accused of infractions that had yet to be proven. That particular article got a lot of feedback from readers who said it was about time that some radio people's excesses were held up for censure.

As a follow-up to that piece, we're happy to report that we recently tuned in to another radio program that did right by its guests and listeners, for a change. It proved that some radio people do their work responsibly and well. May their tribe increase!

The show we listened to was a public service program that helped "ordinary" people without clout to get action on their complaints, which might otherwise be ignored or pooh-poohed by government entities or private organizations.

This was the same format of the shows we critiqued—this time around, however, the host didn't shout or push his way around, and didn't act as both prosecutor and judge to demonize the accused and get on the good side of complainants.

In fact, he made it a point to remind both the accusers and the accused of their rights and responsibilities. He did get action on the complaints brought to him, but in a sober and enlightened manner that was a credit to his profession. From rage to "sage" radio!

Did You Know...

Video docu

"UNSURRENDERED: 100 Years," a video documentary on Filipino guerrillas and "Balangiga" of World War II, screens at the Ayala Museum today, 7 p.m., sponsored by Philippine Veterans Bank.

Produced by Perry Ferrera and Gaby Gutierrez, the docu is based on the recollection of 100 Filipinos and Americans, both men and women, of the WWII guerrilla movement.

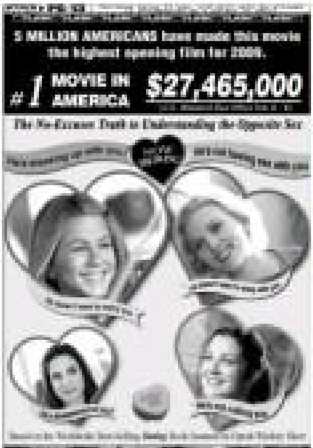
Photographs and film footage provide a backdrop to the storytelling. The docu presents many aspects of the war and highlights the heroism of Filipinos.

UST CineVita pays tribute to Brillante Mendoza

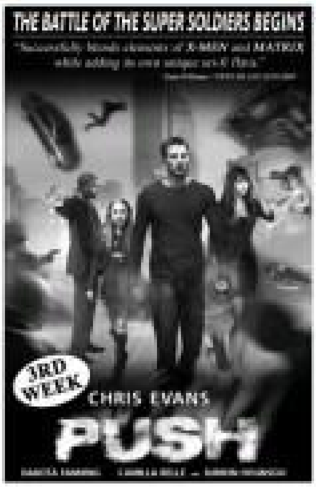
'Serbis' is a poignant commentary on the state of the local movie industry, which has seen better days



Falling apart











My gastronomic birthday weekend

BACK STORY



Lea Salonga

Regine's treat

Swatch cache